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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The territory of the Albanian People's Republic is separated from the territory of its neighboring states by a border line marked with pyramids and other visible indicators. The Presidium of the People's

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Parliament has entrusted the Ministry of the Interior with the proper guarding of the country's borders, and the Ministry of the Interior has entrusted this to the soldiers of the Border Guard Service.

2. All the soldiers, non-commissioned and commissioned officers guarding the borders of the Albanian People's Republic are called Kufitar (border men).

3. The border is divided: a) Border line area, Brez and b) Border Zone. Brez of the border is the area within 500 meters from the border line. The Border Zone is the area within 3-5 km from the border line.

4. Persons residing outside the Brez are not entitled to approach that area unless they have an authorization issued by the competent authorities. The authorization issued to the civil servants appointed to that area for a permanent assignment must be special, and must contain the photograph of the bearer. This authorization is issued by the branch of internal affairs of the Qark.[1] No person is entitled to give his permit to any other person. This permit is valid for one year. If a person is transferred or his period of service in that area is terminated he is obliged to return his permit to the office of the internal affairs of the Qark.

5. Persons residing within the Brez may get into the Brez during day-light hours with a permit issued by the post guarding the border in case they want to spend a night in Brez, they must obtain a permit from the Battalion or the Brigade Headquarters or from the office of internal affairs of the Qark.

6. The owner of a house, having a guest for one or more nights in his house, is obliged to hand over his guest's identity card and permit to the office of the Village Council, or he may report to that office with his guest. He is also obliged to sign the following statement:

> "I, the undersigned A. resident of the village B., profession ----- certify with my personal responsibility that Mr. C. resident of village D. came to my house, and is on friendly terms with the People's Regime. He did not come for any mission against the People's Regime. I am responsible for anything that may happen."
>
> Signature.

7. When the owner of the house does not want to sign the above declaration, the Village Council hands over the guest to the Office of the Post guarding the border. The Post escorts the guest to Battalion Headquarters and sometimes the Police Auxiliary of the village are required to escort him.

8. The guest is not obliged to report with the owner of the house to the Village Council, but the President or the Secretary of the Council is obliged to submit to the Office of the Post a register showing the names of the persons who arrived in that area. To the a/m (sic) register are attached the permits and the identity cards of the guests. The suspected persons are obliged personally to report to the Village Council. The registration form of the Post is filled as follows:

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9. 1) Name and surname, 2) Date of birth, 3) Place of birth, 4) Place of residence, 5) Profession, 6) Name of the person offering hospitality, 7) How long will he/she stay there? 8) Reason for the visit, and 9) Remarks.

10. The Post is obliged to submit the registration form to the branch of internal affairs, through Battalion Headquarters within a month. Persons coming out of the border zone must also register.

11. The residents of the border zone are free to travel within the zone any time they like (day or night).

12. Movement is prohibited in the Brez of the border during the night. Exception is made for the border guards and the Police Auxiliary on duty. The inhabitants of the Brez are not entitled to approach the border line closer than 100 meters. Local shepherds are also obliged to stay within the above limit. Shepherds of the government are obliged to stay 200 meters from the border line.

13. Only persons considered as friends of the People's Regime are authorized to approach the borders, but even in this case the Post is obliged to assign secret guards in order to watch their movements. The residents of the Brez may go freely to the border zone, and no registration is required of them, but they cannot return to the area of the Brez during the night.

DUTIES OF THE COMMANDER OF THE POST

14. The commander of the post accompanied by the political commissar and the deputy commander of the post, will go on inspection trips during the day. They will prepare a draft concerning the guard operations and post it with Chapter No. 3 of the operations book.

15. Then the duty N.C.O. will line up all the soldiers of the post and inspect them. The N.C.O. reports verbally to the commander of the post the results of the inspection.

16. The commander of the post, or the political commissar, or the deputy commander, explains to the soldiers the situation in brief, and then their instructions for the next 24 hours are given. But the nature of their duty and the position where they will carry out their duty is kept secret until they are posted. At the same time they make comments about the duty carried out by the soldiers the previous day.

17. At the same time the commander of the post asks the soldiers if they have any questions, and whether they understood everything. Then the duty N.C.O. is instructed to dismiss the soldiers in order to have their dinner (1800-1900 hours).

18. The commander of the post asks the duty N.C.O. to call the soldiers according to their number and have them report to the commander of the post ready to take over their duty.

19. The N.C.O. orders one of the soldiers to report personally to the commander of the post in the following manner: "Comrade Lieut.

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the group of the border guards formed by . . . . . reports to you, to take over its duty, in order to guard the borders of the Albanian People's Republic."

20. Then the commander of the post inspects the weapons and asks the soldiers the following questions: "Are you ready and in condition to take over your duty?" Then he adds: "I order you to guard the borders of the Albanian People's Republic." After that, he explains to them the nature of their duty, the sector they have to guard, the itinerary of the patrol, the place where they will be relieved by the next group to take over, the other groups of the post that will be on duty near them, and the groups on duty nearest to them and of the nearby posts. Then he gives them the itinerary to be followed by the person who will control them, and by the group that will relieve them, the road to be followed by the reinforcing troops in case of an emergency, and the alarm signal to be used in emergency cases. They are also given the pass-word and counter-password. Then the commander of the post appoints a soldier or an N.C.O. as a chief of the group and asks him to repeat the instructions that they received. After the correct repetition of his instructions, the commander of the post orders the group as follows: CARRY ON.

THE ALBANIAN BORDER GUARD TROOPS ARE CHARGED WITH THE FOLLOWING TASKS:

(1) N.R. (Post duty N.C.O.)
(2) R.P. (Post guard)
(3) R.N.V.Q.M.L. (Guard of boats and vessels at anchor)
(4) R.K. (Border Guard)
(5) P.V.M. (Secret Observation posts)
(6) P.V.Z. (Overt Observation posts)
(7) S. (Secret)
(8) PT. (Patrol)
(9) P. (Ambush)
(10) SH. (Observers)
(11) G.K. (Searching group)
(12) N.B. (Blocking group)
(13) G.A. (Alarm group)
(14) P.K. (Postman) (In charge of the mail service)
(15) K.M.D. (Left side and right side control)

(1) N.R. - The duty N.C.O. of the Post

21. The duty N.C.O. is under the commander of the post, or the deputy commander, or the political commissar of the post.

22. He is responsible for keeping the unit ready for action, and especially the ready group of the post, to prepare the groups for duty, and report to the commander of the post or to the deputy commander or to the political commissar, as soon, as soon as the groups are ready to go on duty. In their absence the duty N.C.O. may replace them if the commander authorizes him to do so. He is obliged to know the nature of the operations, the position of the guarding groups and the nature of their duty. He is also supposed to know when each group returns to the Post, and also the time that the groups on duty have to be relieved.

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23. He is obliged to take care of the signal equipment of the Post. In case of an attack against the Post he should order the soldiers to fight and hold back the assault, and inform immediately the duty officer of the battalion, with whom he must maintain contact until the arrival of the commander of the post. He must know the armament of the Post. He should not leave the building of the Post and should not permit any person to get into the Post without the permission of the commander of the post.

24. He is obliged to keep the commander of the post or the commissar informed about happenings during the night.

(2) R.P. (Post Guard)

25. He is under the commander of the post of the commissar, and the duty N.C.O. as well. He should not allow any person to enter into the Post unless the duty N.C.O. is present. If the Post is attacked he should stay by the main entrance of the Post and shoot without any order against the attacking persons. In that case he is not supposed to say HALT. He must stop the groups returning from their duty and have them wait outside the Post until the duty N.C.O. is informed about their arrival in order to check their weapons and other equipment. Part of his duty is also to watch the loading and unloading of the guns which should be done at a place fixed for that purpose. He is not supposed to smoke or converse with any person. The post guard is relieved of his duty in the presence of the duty N.C.O.

(3) R.N.V.Q.M.L. (Guard of boats and vessels at anchor)

26. He is under the commander of the post, or the deputy commander, or the commissar. He is also under the commander of the battalion, the commissar of the battalion, and the chief of the espionage (information office) of the battalion, and the brigade. The guard is obliged to check the anchored boats and vessels and make certain that the padlocks and the chains are well secured. He should not allow the departure of any boat or vessel if the necessary documents are not provided. This guard is furnished with a telephone set. The replacement of the guard is done according to the password, and the presence of the duty N.C.O. is not required.

(4) R.K. (Border Guard)

27. He is under the commander of the post, or the deputy commander, or the commissar, and also the commander of the battalion, and the commissar of the battalion, the chief of the information office of the battalion and of the brigade.

28. He is responsible for listening carefully to the instructions given to him before taking over his duties and remembering every detail of the instructions while he performs his duties. In case of an attack he should proceed immediately with capturing or killing the attacking persons. He must select the proper position and not reveal his position. He should hide everything that may be seen, and should not smoke during the night. Groups guarding the border are obliged to help other groups in case of an emergency. The groups guarding the border are responsible for their own sector.

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If the group is attacked or involved in a conflict, the Post should be immediately informed by the proper signal (to shoot several times with their rifles).

29. When the group consists of only two soldiers, they place a stone at the spot where the fighting started and they pursue the diversionists until they arrest them.

30. When the group is formed by 3 soldiers, one of them stays at the place where the fighting started and the other two pursue the diversionists. The groups guarding the border consist of 2 or 3 soldiers, and the replacement is done with the password only. The presence of the duty N.C.O. is not required.

(5) P.V.M. (Secret Observation Posts)

31. This group is formed by 2 or more soldiers, and it is under the commander of the post, the deputy commander, the commissar of the post, as well as under the commander of the battalion, the chief of the staff, and the chief of the information service of the battalion or the brigade.

32. This group operates in fixed observation posts and observes carefully the movement of the enemy, and also any important movement within the Albanian territory. Their main attention should be directed to their left and right side. The observation should be continuous without interruption, and should proceed from close distance to far distance. The position of this group is secret and should not be known either by the inhabitants of that area, or by the inhabitants of the neighbor country. In case they see an armed or unarmed person passing from the Albanian territory to the territory of the neighbor country, they must proceed as follows: One of the soldiers stays at the position and the other 2 pursue the escaping person. They should try to capture or kill him so that the position of the secret observers will not be revealed. Usually they should try to block his way to a distance of 500 meters from their position. Then they inform the Post immediately with the usual signal (shooting).

33. When an armed or unarmed person gets into the Albanian territory from a neighbor country, they should let him enter the territory for some distance then, they should inform the Post with the signals described above. Meanwhile, one of the soldiers stays at the observation post and the other 2 pursue the said person until they arrest him. The tour of duty for this group is 8 hours. Then one of them gets some rest and the other 2 carry on without interruption. They take their food with them and they eat one at a time. Smoking is permitted. They must have with them the observations log book in order to record movements of the enemy. This group is dispatched for duty very early in the morning and returns after the sunset. If the position from which they observe is properly camouflaged they can be replaced in order to get their lunch at the Post.

(6) P.V.Z. (Overt Observation Posts)

34. The above group is under the commander of the post, the deputy

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commander, the commissar of the post, and as well as under the commander, and the chief of the information office of the battalion and the brigade. This group consists of 2 or more soldiers. Their tour of duty lasts 8 hours, but when it has to be extended more than that, the group is increased to 3 soldiers who must take their food with them. In this manner one of them gets rest and the other two perform the necessary observations without interruption. The proper position for overt observation posts is the top of a hill or a big tree, or a big rock. A cement watch-tower also may be used for the same purpose which must be built at a spot commanding a wide area. These men are not expected to hide their presence, and they can be seen by the inhabitants of the Albanian territory as well as by the inhabitants of the neighbor country, but they should not let the people know their number. The men in these groups are usually replaced in daytime but some of them carry on their duty at night.

(7) S (Secret)

35. This group is under the commander of the post, the deputy commander, the commissar, and the person (sic) who is present at the moment that he receives the instructions about the nature of his duty.

36. The groups consist of 2 or more soldiers, and they guard certain points which cannot be guarded by the other groups, or when there is information that the border may be easily crossed in a particular sector. This group is not replaced. If a person attempts to escape from the Albanian territory, the soldiers of this group are instructed to arrest him in a manner so that their presence in that place will not be revealed.

37. If an unarmed person attempts to get into Albanian territory from a neighbor country, the soldiers of the secret group are instructed to let him come deep into Albanian territory and then they inform the Post with the usual signals. If the person attempting to enter is armed, the group deploys away from the observation post to a distance of 500 meters and then they try to arrest the illegal person.

(8) PT. (Patrol)

38. The patrol consists of 2 or more soldiers and it is under the commander of the post, the deputy commander, the commissar, and as well as under the commander, and the commissar of the battalion and the brigade. The patrol is dispatched to the villages, working centers where they watch the villagers working near the border. The patrol is not replaced, and as soon as they complete the hours of duty required, they return to the Post.

(9) P. (Ambush)

39. The ambush is formed by a group of 5 or more soldiers. This group is commanded by an officer or an N.C.O. who are experienced in this type of duty. The ambush is laid in a place where there is information that groups of diversionists will pass. If they see any persons attempting to escape from Albanian territory, the man in charge of the ambush sends 2 soldiers to arrest them. In the event that an armed or unarmed person tries to enter Albanian territory from a neighbor country, the soldiers of the ambush let

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him enter deep enough into Albanian territory and they observe the direction that he follows. Then they inform the Post with the usual signal (shooting). The duration of this kind of duty is not fixed but depends on the instructions given by the commanding officer.

(10) SH (Observers)

40. The group of observers is formed by 2 or more soldiers. It is under the commander of the post, the deputy commander, the commissar of the post, and as well as under the commander, the commissar of the information office of the battalion or the brigade. This group is dispatched to make a check of the border line, and especially to observe the ground for foot prints. For this purpose certain zones of the border have been dug up.

41. The sector guarded by this group is larger than that guarded by the regular border guards, and when they complete their duty they return to the post.

(11) G.K. (Searching Group)

42. This group is formed by 2 or more soldiers and it is under the commander of the operations office. They are dispatched for duty only when information has been received that some diversionists are hidden in a forest. This operation is carried out by the Post, or the reserve platoon of the battalion, or by any other unit. The groups searching a forest must have pursuit dogs trained for that kind of work.

(12) N.B. (Blocking group)

43. This group is formed by 10 or more soldiers commanded by the chief of the operations office. The soldiers are picked from the posts and the reserve platoon of the battalion. The duty of this group is to blockade an area or a forest being searched by a unit. The blocking group for its own security is obliged to assign secret guards to observe and to perform the same duty as the guards and the observers of the border posts. The blocking group must have a regular contact with the searching troops in order to avoid mistakes and misunderstandings during the operations. If their duty is continued more than 8 hours, one-fourth of the men get a rest while the others stay on duty.

(13) G.A. (Alarm Group)

44. This group consists of 3 soldiers. In the day time they are armed and ready for action. During the night they are allowed to remove their shoes only. Their tour of duty lasts 6 hours. This group is reserved to be dispatched immediately in the event that one of the other groups on duty needs help. When this group is sent to reinforce the group on duty, it is immediately substituted by another group. They are always at the disposal of the duty N.C.O.

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(14) P.K. (Border Postman)

45. One or 2 soldiers are appointed to each post, (transferred from the H.Q. of the mail service), for the transportation of correspondance from the Post to the battalion or to any other place. The postman is responsible for sending the correspondence to the indicated place.

(15) K.M.D. (Left side and right side control)

46. The control of the groups and men on duty is usually carried out by the commander of the post, the deputy commander, or the commissar of the post but sometimes also the officers of the Border Guard Directory are sent for this purpose. In certain cases this duty is taken over by a soldier of the post appointed by the commander of the post. Men on duty are inspected during the day and at night but not at a fixed time. The man in charge of the inspection is competent to make the necessary remarks about the way that the groups and men carry out their duties, and if it is required he is authorized to give new instructions.

DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES OF:

47. COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE BORDER POST:
The commander of the post is in charge of everything concerning a post. He is responsible for the organization of the operations for guarding the border at his post, for keeping his unit well prepared and ready for action, for looking after and carrying out the instructions and orders provided by the program, for maintaining good relations with the inhabitants of the border zone, and for collaborating with the auxiliary police.

48. COMMANDER OF A POST:
The commander of the post gets information from the following sources: a) From the H.Q. of the battalion (information office of the battalion), b) From the secretary of the local C.P. organization, c) From the C.P. members of the village, d) from the youth organization and the pioneers, e) from the police-assistants and the people favoring the regime.

49. POLITICAL COMMISSAR OF THE POST:
He has the same responsibilities as the commander of the post. His duty is to develop the political part of the work and to assist the commander of the post in the military training program; to take part in the management of the youth organization of the post. To explain the most difficult (obscure) points concerning the political situation to the youth organization. To be cognizant of the sentiments of the personnel of the Post and of their social origin. To decorate the military political room of the post in order to attract the soldiers to pass their time in that room when they are not on duty. To look after the printing and posting of the newspaper of the post. To arrange regular

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meetings of the agitators. To maintain good relations with the secretary of the local People's Council, the secretary of the local organization of the Albanian Workers' Party and the Youth Organization. To explain to the personnel of the post the local customs and habits. To manage the political work in collaboration with the local auxiliary police and the people who collaborate in activities favoring the regime.

50. DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE POST:
He is the direct commander of the troops. His duty is to look after the military training of the soldiers. To prepare the training program and to put into effect the internal regulations of the Post. When the storekeeper of the Post is absent he is obliged to fill the different forms and documents.

51. Essential Elements of Information:

1) Information concerning the enemy position, his strength, armament, and morale of his troops.

2) The inhabitants of that area and their morale.

3) Weather.

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4) Nature of the terrain.

5) The soldiers of the post, their morale and armament.

[redacted] Comment: Qark, meaning district.

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